

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following replacement paragraphs. The corrections being made in each paragraph are shown on the attachment that presents the original paragraph with deletions shown in brackets and additions shown by underlining.

Paragraph, Page 8, lines 3-19

FIG. 4 illustrates a storage and transfer portion of the pipette tip packaging and transfer system of the present invention, including receiving plate 20 and transfer member 30. As shown, pipette tips 24 can be stacked vertically atop of one another by introducing pipette tips 24 into receiving plate 20 and aligning the distal tip 29 of each pipette tip 24 over and into top openings 26 of pipette tips 24 located in an underlying receiving plate 20. A first assembly 21 consisting of the uppermost receiving plate 20A and pipette tips 24A is formed. Receiving plates 20B and 20C are each formed into assemblies 23 and 25 respectively by placing pipette tips 24A into pipette tips 20B. The assemblies 21, 23 and 25 are then all stacked as shown. When stacked, the bottom surface 27 of receiving plate 20A rests on the shoulder 29 (FIG. 4) above the annular portions 39 of proximal portion 28 which are formed to have top opening 26. In this fashion, multiple stacks of pipette tips 24 contained within receiving plate 20 can be stacked vertically to form a compact assembly of pipette tips 24 when those holding trays are stacked atop of one another. Stabilization of the pipette tips 24 during the alignment and stacking process is accomplished by first lowering transfer member 30 onto the proximal end 28 of each pipette tip 24, such that all projections or bosses 34 on transfer member 30 are inserted into top openings 26 of pipette tips 24.